



**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**  
**STATE LODGE OF MICHIGAN**



May 8, 2012

Senator Rick Jones, Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Senators Jones, Schuitmaker, Rocca and Bieda,

I am writing to express the support of the Michigan Fraternal Order of Police for SB-1109. As law enforcement officers our job is to investigate crimes against Michigan's citizens. During the course of these investigations we arrest individuals suspected of committing these serious crimes. These individuals are convicted and sentenced to everything from probation, County Jail and State Prison.

This situation plays out over and over again with many of these same individuals being arrested and convicted multiple times for very serious felonies. It becomes a revolving door, we arrest, Judges incarcerate, sentenced served, inmate paroled. Even after multiple convictions these same individuals commit additional offenses, in many instances the seriousness of the crimes as well as the associated violence escalates and all too often more innocent people become victims of these repeat offenders.

Anyone with three of these serious felony convictions that is back on the street has been through this cycle enough. With thirty-four hundred (3400) fewer police officers and four (4) Michigan cities on the list of most violent cities in America it is time to stop this revolving door and hold these repeat offenders accountable. The only way to fully protect people from these violent repeat offenders is to remove them from society for an extended period of time.

The mandatory twenty-five (25) year sentence for anyone convicted of a forty serious crime, as defined by SB 1109 is the best way to insure that these individuals will not be committing any more of these serious violent offenses.

The Michigan Fraternal Order of Police whole heartedly supports SB 1109 and asks for your support. Give us the tools we need and join us in protecting the people of Michigan by taking these violent repeat offenders off the street.

Sincerely,

John Buczek, Executive Director  
Michigan Fraternal Order of Police